

Morgan C. Williams, Jr.
Assistant Professor
Department of Economics
Barnard College, Columbia University

Work Address

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Education

Ph.D. in Economics, City University of New York Graduate Center, 2018
M.P.H., Columbia University Mailman School of Public Health, 2014
B.A., Morehouse College, 2006

Professional Experience in Higher Education

Barnard College, Columbia University
Department of Economics
Assistant Professor, Fall 2021 – Present

New York University
Robert F. Wagner Graduate School of Public Service
NYU Provost's Postdoctoral Fellowship
Assistant Professor/Faculty Fellow, Fall 2018 – Spring 2021

Other Academic Affiliations

The Abdul Latif Jameel Poverty Action Lab (J-PAL), Invited Researcher, 2023 – Present
Columbia University Population Research Center, Affiliate, 2021 – Present
Columbia University Scientific Union for the Reduction of Gun Violence (SURGE), 2021 – Present

Academic and Professional Honors

Russell Sage Foundation (RSF) Visiting Scholar, 2024-25
NBER Predoctoral Fellowship in Aging and Health Research, 2016-18
CUNY Graduate Center Dissertation Fellowship, 2016-17
Vera Institute of Justice/CUNY Graduate Center Research Fellowship, 2016
Massachusetts Institute of Technology Predoctoral Fellowship, 2015-17
AEA Mentoring Program/NSF Grant, 2015

CUNY Graduate Center Dean K. Harris Fellowship, 2012
NYC Department of Health & Mental Hygiene Scholar, 2008
U.S. Fulbright Scholar (Republic of Mali), 2006-07

Grant Activity

Active Grants

Columbia Population Research Center Seed Grant, 2022, \$13,374
Columbia Data Science Institute Seed Funds Program (with Jeffrey Fagan, Rajiv Sethi, Elizabeth Ananat, Brendan O'Flaherty, and Jose Montiel Olea), 2022, \$50,000
Russell Sage Foundation Small Grants in Computational Social Sciences, 2019, \$9,987
Robert Wood Johnson Policies for Action (P4A) Initiative: NYU Wagner Health Hub, 2019, \$5,000

Publications and Creative Work

Journal Articles

Chalfin, Aaron, Benjamin Hansen, Emily K. Weisburst, and Morgan C. Williams Jr. "Police Force Size and Civilian Race." *American Economic Review: Insights* 4, No. 2 (2022): 139-58.

O'Flaherty, B., Sethi, R. and Williams Jr, M., 2023. The Nature, Detection, and Avoidance of Harmful Discrimination in Criminal Justice. *Journal of Policy Analysis and Management*.

Chalfin, Aaron, David Mitre Becerril, and Morgan C. Williams, Jr. "Does Proactive Policing Really Increase Major Crime? A Replication Study of Sullivan & O'Keeffe (Nature Human Behavior, 2017)." *Forthcoming. Journal of Comments and Replications in Economics*.

Reports and Other Work

Chalfin, Aaron, Alex Cholas-Wood, and Morgan C. Williams, Jr. "Underground: Safer Than the Surface?" *Vital City*, 2024

Chalfin, Aaron, Alex Cholas-Wood, and Morgan C. Williams, Jr. "Crime on the New York City Subway: How Rare is it Really?" *Vital City*, 2024

Williams Jr., Morgan C. "New York's Iron Pipeline Problem," *Vital City*, Special Issue, 2024

National Academies of Sciences, Engineering, and Medicine. 2023. *Crime Rates During the COVID-19 Pandemic: Proceedings of a Workshop in Brief*. Washington, DC: The National Academies Press. <https://doi.org/10.17226/26920>.

Chalfin, Aaron, Benjamin Hansen, Emily K. Weisburst, and Morgan C. Williams Jr. "When Cities Add Cops, Black Residents Could Have the Most to Gain—and the Most to Lose." *Niskanen Center Research Brief*, 2021.

Williams Jr., Morgan C. “Weighing the Impact of Policing,” *Vital City*, Inaugural Issue, 2022.

Works in Progress

Gehrsitz, Markus and Morgan C. Williams, Jr.* “The Effects of Compulsory Schooling on Health and Hospitalizations over the Life-Cycle.” *Under Review*.

Williams Jr., Morgan C. “Gun Violence in Black and White: Evidence from Policy Reform in Missouri.”

Williams Jr., Morgan C.*, Nathan Weil⁺, Elizabeth A. Rasich⁺, Jens Ludwig, Hye Chang⁺, and Sophia Egrari.⁺ “Body-Worn Cameras and Policing: Benefits and Costs.” NBER Working Paper No. 28622, 2021.

Armstrong, Jed S.⁺, Glenn C. Loury, and Morgan C. Williams, Jr.* “Searching for a Second Chance: Evidence from New York State “Ban-the-Box” Laws,” 2024.

Chalfin, Aaron and Morgan C. Williams, Jr.* “Do Residency Requirements Improve Policing? Theory and Evidence,” 2024.

Glied, Sherry, Renata Howland⁺, and Morgan C. Williams, Jr.* “Health Insurance and Recidivism: Evidence from New York State Medicaid Policy,” 2024.

O’Flaherty, Brendan, Rajiv Sethi, and Morgan C. Williams, Jr.* “Underground Gun Markets and Homicide,” 2024.

+ Indicates corresponding coauthor

* Indicates graduate student or non-academic coauthor

Courses Taught

Barnard College

Econometrics, Spring 2022; Fall 2022 and 2023 semesters

Advanced Econometrics: An Introduction to Causal Inference, Spring 2023 and 2024 semesters

Health Economics, Spring 2022, 2023, and 2024 semesters

Race, Crime, and Incarceration Policy in the United States (Senior Seminar), Fall 2021, 2022, and 2023 semesters

Dissertation Committee Member, Jed S. Armstrong, New York University Department of Economics, 2021-23

New York University, Robert F. Wagner Graduate School of Public Service

Multiple Regression and Introduction to Econometrics, Fall 2020

Race, Crime, and Incarceration Policy in the United States, Fall 2018 and Spring 2020

Urban Research Seminar (Coordinator), AY 2018-19
Baruch College, City University of New York

Principles of Microeconomics, Spring 2015

Invited Talks

The Brookings Institution Economics Studies Program Seminar, 2025

University of California, Irvine, Criminology, Law, & Society Seminar, 2025

Russell Sage Foundation Visiting Scholar Research Seminar, 2025

New York University Identities & Ideology Project Seminar, 2025

Morehouse College Economics Department Seminar, 2024

NBER Inaugural Economics of Firearm Markets, Crime, and Gun Violence Meeting, 2024

University of Maryland, Baltimore County Economics Seminar, 2024

University of Pennsylvania Law & Economics Seminar, 2023

Haverford College Economics Department Seminar, 2023

Claremont McKenna College Economics Department Seminar, 2023

Duke University Race, Racism, and Structural Inequality Conference, 2023

Columbia Population Research Center Children, Youth, and Families Mini-Conference, 2023

Jackson Delegation Legislative Hearing, Chaired by State Representative Zakiya Summers,
Expert Testimony, March 2023

MIT Economics Department Public Finance and Labor Seminar, 2022

NBER Summer Institute Health Program Meeting, 2022

Teacher's College, Columbia University Economics of Education Seminar, 2022

University of Oregon Economics Department Seminar, 2022

The Rand Corporation Seminar, 2022

University of Notre Dame Department of Economics Seminar, 2022

University of Illinois at Urbana-Champaign Economics Department Seminar, 2022

Dartmouth College Rockefeller Center and Economics Department Public Policy Lecture Series, 2022

Fair and Just Prosecution Conference, 2022

Brown University Philosophy, Politics, and Economics Research Seminar, 2022

Georgia Tech Economics Department Seminar, 2022

National Academies of Science, Engineering, and Medicine Committee on Law and Justice Workshop, November 2022

Lehigh University Economics Department Seminar, 2022

The Atlantic, *Atlantic Festival*, Invited Speaker, September 2022

Fair and Just Prosecution Conference, Featured Panelist, March 2022

Harry Frank Guggenheim “At the Crossroads Forum: Behind the Rise in Gun Violence in New York and Other American Cities,” Featured Panelist, March 2022

U.S. Department of Justice Internal Research Convening: Body-Worn Camera Research, July 2021

Northeastern University Economics Department, 2021

University of Pennsylvania School of Social Policy and Practice, 2021

NBER Summer Institute Law & Economics Program Meeting, 2021

Stanford University Law & Economics Seminar, 2021

Texas A&M Economics Seminar, 2021

The Ohio State University Economics Seminar, 2021

University of Chicago Crime Lab Seminar, 2020

Barnard College Department of Economics Seminar, 2020

Tulane University Department of Economics Seminar, 2020

NYU Furman Center Lunch Seminar Series, 2019

NYU Race, Crime, and Policing Workshop (Organizer), 2019

University of Pennsylvania Department of Criminology, 2018

Urban Economics Association Conference, 2018

Cornell University Policy Analysis and Management Department Seminar, 2018

Queens College Department of Economics Seminar, 2018

Columbia University Race, Ethnicity, and Migration Workshop, 2016

Service to the College and University

Barnard College Information Technology Committee, Member, 2022 – Present

Barnard College Economics Department Hiring Committee, Member, Assistant Professor, Fall 2022 – Spring 2023.

Columbia University Economics Department Undergraduate Honors Thesis, Advisor, Fall 2022

Columbia University Economics Department Labor and Public Finance Seminar, Seminar Meeting Organizer (Crystal S. Yang, Harvard Law School and NBER Crime Working Group Co-Director), October 2022

Columbia University Population Research Center Seminar, Seminar Meeting Organizer (Emily Owens, University of California, Irvine Department of Criminology, Law, & Society Department Chair), December 2023

Columbia University Quantitative Methods in the Social Sciences (QMSS), Research Seminar Series, Guest Lecturer, Spring 2023

Service to the Profession

Crime, Justice, and Drugs Subcommittee, Association for Public Policy Analysis and Management (APPAM) Conference, Co-Chair, 2024

Crime, Justice, and Drugs Subcommittee, Association for Public Policy Analysis and Management (APPAM) Conference, Reviewer, 2023

Allied Social Science Associations/American Economic Association (ASSA/AEA) Meetings, “Racism in the United States: Evidence from Economic History,” Session Chair, January 2022

Rutgers University Department of Economics, Evidence-Based Crime Policy (Amanda Agan),
Guest Lecturer, Fall 2021 and 2022

Journal Referee

Quarterly Journal of Economics
American Economic Review
American Economic Review: Insights
American Economic Journal: Applied Economics
American Economic Journal: Economic Policy
Journal of Law & Economics
Journal of Urban Economics
Journal of Labor Economics
Journal of Public Economics
Journal of Law and Economics
Journal of Human Resources
Journal of Policy Analysis & Management
Journal of Quantitative Criminology
Economic Inquiry
Science Advance
The Economic Journal
Time-Sharing Experiences for the Social Sciences (TESS)

Consultantships

University of Chicago Crime Lab, Academic Consultant, Fall 2020 – Summer 2021